

TO: Higher Education Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Glenn Bailey & Mary Beth McNulty

ITEM FOR DISCUSSION: Board Survey Results

BACKGROUND:

The Board completed a survey of its own practices and effectiveness following the June meeting. The survey was divided into the following categories:

- I. Self-evaluation
- II. Board Meeting Evaluation & Processes
- III. Mini Board Self- Assessment Survey
- IV. Department of Education Evaluation
- V. Additional Feedback

Attached are the results of the survey and a summary of responders' comments. While the responses were generally very positive, we've chosen to summarize the comments, with the exception of comments on the DOE, to better preserve confidentiality. The Executive Committee was given a copy of the comments on the DOE and will present their own summary of these remarks.

The areas that the Board has identified as most in need of improvement are:

- Public Relations and Advocacy
- New Board Member Orientation

The Board also identified the following areas as requiring further discussion:

- Relationship with executive committee
- Meeting room
- Electronic packet

Individual Board Member Self- Evaluation

Q1. Do I understand and support the vision of the VSBPE?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.0%	11
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	0.0%	0

Q2. Do I follow trends and important developments related to the VSBPE?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.0%	11
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	0.0%	0

Q3. Do I prepare for and participate in board meetings and committee meetings?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.0%	11
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	0.0%	0

Q4. Do I have a good working relationship with the chair?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	90.9%	10
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	9.1%	1

Q5. Do I have a good working relationship with the DOE staff?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	100.0%	11
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	0.0%	0

Q6. Do I have a good working relationship with the executive committee?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	72.7%	8
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	27.3%	3

Q7. Do I find serving on the board to be a satisfying and rewarding experience?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	90.9%	10
No	0.0%	0
Not Sure	9.1%	1

Board Meeting Evaluation & Processes

Q8. The board committee and staffing structure and its operating procedures are helpful in supporting the work of the board.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		3

Responders noted that while the two committee format is good, committee work may be unbalanced, there is a lack of awareness of the other committee's work, and committee work moving to full board can be slow

Q9. The board regularly refers to goals, plans, and data to guide its decision-making process.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		3

Responders note the value of goals, plans, and data to guide its decision-making process and are encouraged that this practice has improved and recommend more frequent reviews of the action plan goals to determine where the Board stands in meeting them and their appropriateness

Q10. All board members are prepared to discuss materials sent in advance.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	81.8%	9
Needs Improvement	18.2%	2
Comments		2

Responders believe members are generally prepared for meetings

Q11. A diversity of options are expressed and issues are dealt with in a respectful manner.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		3

Responders identify this as a strength of the board

Q12. The board avoids getting bogged down by administrative details.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.0%	9
Needs Improvement	10.0%	1
Comments		2

Responders feel positive but recommend that the executive committee guide the board in using its time more effectively

Q13. Next steps are identified and responsibly assigned.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		1

Responder notes that while the work gets done the board could be clearer in identifying responsibilities and balancing work

Q14. The agenda is clear, supported by the necessary documents, and distributed prior to the meeting.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		3

Responders note that, with the occasional exception, the agenda and materials are clear and available prior to the meeting.

Q15. Documents in the packets are clear and contain needed information.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	100.0%	10
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0

Q16. Board members attend regularly.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.0%	9
Needs Improvement	10.0%	1
Comments		3

Responders note that members do the best they can given their job responsibilities while recognizing the importance of meeting attendance

Q17. Meetings begin and end on time.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		1

Responder recommends more attention to the start time of the meetings

Q18. The meeting room is conducive to work.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.0%	9
Needs Improvement	10.0%	1
Comments		4

Responders note that it is challenging for the committees to share a meeting space at times

Q19. We enjoy being together.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		2

Respondents feel positively towards the group

Q20. The board is welcoming and responsive to visitors.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		2

Responders have received positive feedback and recommend hearing from visitors

Q21. The chair assures that presenters to the board are mindful of the board's agenda and purpose.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.0%	9
Needs Improvement	10.0%	1
Comments		4

Some responders feel like visitors need to be reminded of the board's work while others feel like the chair does this well

Q22. The chair runs the meeting effectively and members participate responsibly.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		2

Responders feel positively about board chair and recommend T/ARC committee arrive later than HE committee as warranted

Q23. The committee chairs run effective meetings.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Ok	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		2

Responders reiterate the value of Brian's leadership

Mini Board Self- Assessment Survey**Q24. VSBPE Mission**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	90.9%	10
Needs Work	9.1%	1

Q25. Action Planning

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	90.9%	10
Needs Work	9.1%	1

Q26. Relationship with Educator Quality Staff

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	100.0%	11
Needs Work	0.0%	0

Q27. Relationship with Director of Educator Quality

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	100.0%	11
Needs Work	0.0%	0

Q28. Public Relations and Advocacy

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	27.3%	3
Needs Work	72.7%	8

Q29. Board Member Orientation

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Does Well	72.7%	8
Needs Work	27.3%	3

Department of Education Evaluation**Q30. The DOE regularly supplies the board information that is timely and useful.**

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		2

Q31. The DOE provides the board with sufficient data regarding its work and is supported in its analysis.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		1

Q32. The Director of EQT is effective in providing the board with the state-wide educational context regarding its work and supports it in making decisions.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		1

Q33. Higher education committee staff are effective in supplying enough information for the committee to make its decisions.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		3

Q34. T/ARC committee staff is effective in supplying enough information for the committee to make its decisions.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	90.9%	10
Needs Improvement	9.1%	1
Comments		2

Q35. Department legal staff are effective in providing information that is relevant to the board's work.

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
OK	100.0%	11
Needs Improvement	0.0%	0
Comments		2

Additional Feedback**Q36. Do you want to share any additional feedback for the board or the DOE?**

Comments	200.0%
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One responder emphasised the need for strong new member orientation and another responder appreciates the professionalism of the board

Q37. The DOE would like to transition to sending packets electronically. Would you support this move?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	54.5%	6
No	45.5%	5
Comments		6

Likes electronic for cost savings

Likes electronic for efficiency

Likes hard copy to write on

Likes hard copy for getting postal mail

Consider transitional phase

Need wireless meeting room (2 respondents) or laptops for all (2 respondents)

Would just mean the board member would have to print materials themselves (2 respondents) which would mean board member would take on cost and need access to printer

Individual Board Member Self- Evaluation

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